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TRNG-4-1

Basic Trng

MAY 7 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Training

SUBJECT : BIC/SUP Course

1. I recently asked the major components of the DD/A organization to let me have comments on and appraisals of the BIC/SUP course offered by the Office of Training. It was my feeling that the number of DD/A personnel who had participated in this series of courses was sufficient to solicit impressions which might be useful in our continuing efforts to develop the most effective training program for DD/A employees.


2. As you know, this Office has consistently supported the principle that certain training in the fundamentals of intelligence mission, organization and methodology should be mandatory for all Agency personnel who hold positions at the junior professional level and above. Apart from the fact that such training increases the ability of personnel to produce more effectively in a shorter period of time, I believe there is the preeminent aim of promoting an Agency esprit de corps through the understanding of our overall objectives acquired from the knowledge imparted at the basic intelligence courses offered by the Office of Training. It is the general feeling of our Offices that the course content of the first three weeks of the BIC/SUP course is very beneficial to new employees of the Agency and, as well, to older personnel who have had little or no formal Agency training, and whose experience in CIA has been confined to relatively narrow work areas. On the other hand, there is a considerable body of opinion that the material which comprises the last three weeks of the course has very limited value for employees who are not scheduled for overseas tours or whose work does not include duties specifically concerned with overseas procedures. As an alternative, the suggestion has been made that DD/A personnel whose assignments for the foreseeable future are limited to departmental positions participate in a program which would be a modification of the present BIC/SUP course. Under this plan it is proposed that a four-week basic intelligence course be set up which would include most of the material now presented during the first three weeks of BIC/SUP, plus such other material from the last three weeks as might be desirable for inclusion in the

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new four-week course. Additionally, it is suggested that there be offered a two-week supplement of overseas procedural instruction for those people who will go overseas, or whose departmental duties involve closer knowledge of overseas operations.

3. The number of comments originating with employees who have attended the BIC/SUP course, and the endorsements to such comments supplied by the administrative staff chiefs of this organization, attest to the fact that there is a definite problem concerning the scope of training which should be provided. I believe that a positive recommendation from this Office is premature at this time. However, I would like to discuss this further with you, or would welcome your opinion as to the feasibility of adopting the suggestion relayed in this memorandum.


L. K. WHITE
Acting Deputy Director
(Administration)

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